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5 October 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

DIA and DOS review(s)
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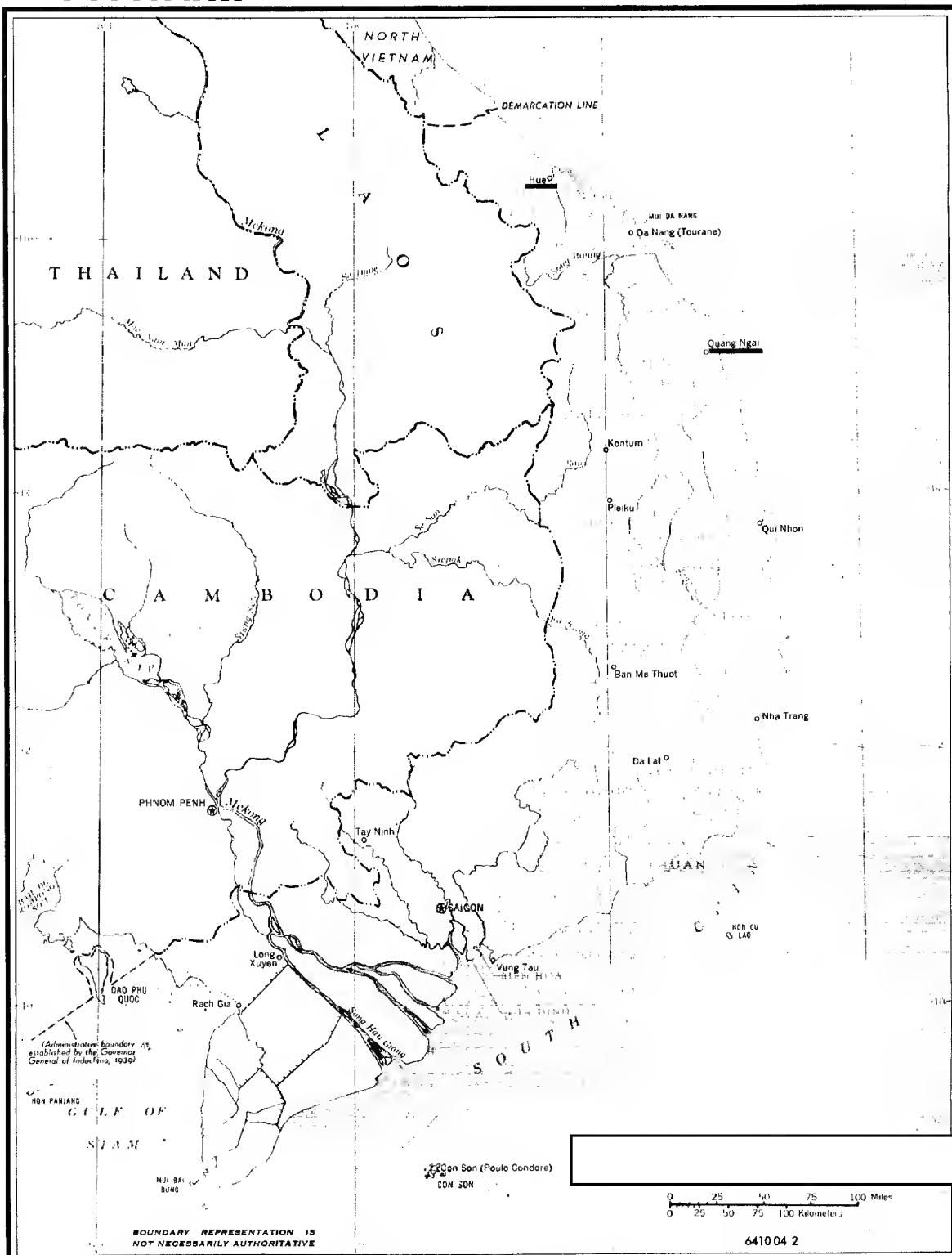
5 October 1964

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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South Vietnam



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5 October 1964

DAILY BRIEF

South Vietnam: Buddhist and political leaders in central Vietnam for the moment appear disposed to give the new High National Council an opportunity to arrange for an orderly transition to civilian rule.

On 1 October Thich Tri Quang, the militant central Vietnamese Buddhist leader, told 5,000 followers in Hué that in the current phase of the Buddhist struggle the High National Council should be allowed to carry out its promises. He urged his audience to ignore those who at this juncture seek to incite disturbances. Quang implied, however, that he would resume active protest if Buddhists are oppressed again.

At a conference in Hué of local National Salvation Councils from various parts of central Vietnam, Dr. Le Khac Quyen and other leaders of the People's Revolutionary Committee have also urged support of the High National Council. The local chapters at the conference did not appear united, however, and Quyen and his Hué associates may not be able to prevent new outbreaks.

In Saigon, publication of the High National Council's draft provisional constitution reportedly is imminent. The council's progress in carrying out other parts of its mission may be hampered by differences which have already emerged among its membership.

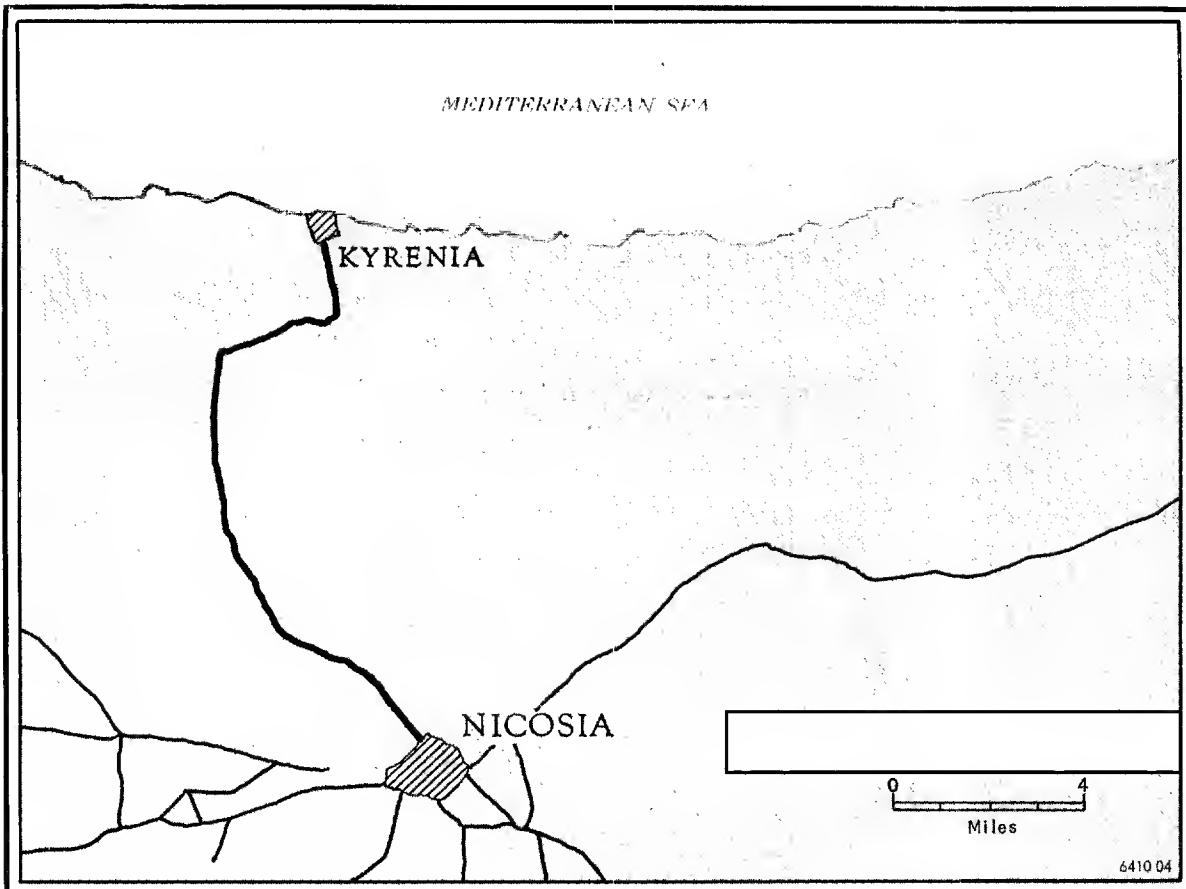
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The Viet Cong ambushed two companies of government troops yesterday only 15 miles north of Saigon. The press has reported, however, a government "victory" in the Ca Mau Peninsula, 140 miles southwest of Saigon.

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CYPRUS



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Cyprus: Settlement of the issue of control of the Nicosia-Kyrenia road continues to be blocked by Turkish Cypriot objections.

According to the Turkish chargé in Nicosia, the Turks will allow the UN to check and convoy "unarmed Greek civilians" on the road, but Turkish Cypriot police would continue to control the road and to deal with "non-Greek travelers." The US Embassy in Nicosia believes that Ankara will have to put considerable pressure on the Turkish Cypriots to be more forthcoming.

Further negotiation will probably have to wait until Makarios returns about 11 October from the nonaligned nations conference in Cairo.

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Italy: The possibility of a government crisis has increased somewhat over the past few days.

The coalition partners of Premier Moro's Christian Democratic Party (CD) may feel impelled to pull out if the new socioeconomic program, currently under consideration by the CD national council, is too bland. Leaders of the four principal CD factions agreed this weekend on a program, and the council is likely to accept it. The CD's left wing is reported to have sharply criticized this agreement, however, and the coalition parties, particularly the Socialists, are likely to be at least equally reluctant to accept further limitations on the government's reform program.

At the same time, the factional fight within the party for representation in the party's executive organs has not been composed. The CD left wing is still rejecting attempts to give the right wing a vice secretaryship on the party's executive board.

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NOTES

Spain-Cuba: Madrid plans to stop all Spanish shipping to Cuba after the remaining few sailings within the present charter agreement, according to the Spanish foreign minister. Halting Spanish shipping to Cuba will not necessarily mean any reduction in Cuban-Spanish trade, which has increased substantially in the past eighteen months.

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Syria: The replacement of Syria's ineffectual prime minister Bitar with General Amin al-Hafiz, long the strong man of the regime, once again places power directly in the hands of Baathist-oriented military leaders. Hafiz reportedly hopes to reduce Syria's isolation by seeking some rapprochement with Nasir. Such an effort will be hampered by Syrian-Iraqi hostility and Egypt's increasingly close ties with Iraq, as well as by Nasir's evident reluctance to respond to any overtures from the Baath.

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Haiti: A new group of some 30 to 40 exiles reportedly has landed near Port Salut in southwestern Haiti. According to reports received by the US Army attaché, the rebels intend to join up with the few exiles still operating in the Port Salut area. Other landings reportedly are scheduled.

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USSR: To encourage the sale of privately held gold jewelry to the state, and possibly to discourage its illegal export, the government has sharply increased the price it will pay for gold bought from the population. On 2 October, a cashier at a gold purchasing point gave a price more than three times the official gold value of the ruble. At the official dollar-ruble exchange rate this is equivalent to \$117.50 per ounce, a figure which is well above estimated costs of production of gold in the USSR, and which reflects Moscow's continuing concern for its gold position.

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DAILY BRIEF

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The Department of Defense
 The Secretary of Defense
 The Deputy Secretary of Defense
 The Secretary of the Army
 The Secretary of the Navy
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